and, Central Government's clearance under Rule 30 of Explosive Rule, 1983 is also required. For export by air, clearance is also required from Director General of Civil Aviation and in case of export of firework item which is not included in Schedule VI of Explosives Rules, exemption of Rule 31(2) is required from Central Government under Section 14(2) of Explosives Act, 1884.

Increase in exports from SEZs

1528. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the exports from SEZ have gone up to $ 4.07 billion in 2004-05 from $ 2.7 billion in 2003-04;

(b) the number of SEZs functioning in 2003-04,2004-05 and at present and factors conducive for more exports by SEZs;

(c) whether Government proposes to open up more SEZs; and

(d) if so, the details of new SEZs proposed to be opened in 2005-06 and 2006-07 and target of exports fixed for these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Exports from Special Economic Zones (SEZs) rose from US $ 2.97 billion in 2003-04 to US $ 4.07 billion during 2004-05.

(b) Number of SEZs functioning during 2003-04,2004-05 and at present is indicated below:

Year	Number of functional SEZs
2003-04	8
2004-05	11
2005-06 (As on December, 2005)	15

Enactment of Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 with enhanced incentives would provide further impetus for promotion of exports.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal for the Central Government to set up any new Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and the policy of the Government is to encourage and facilitate establishment of SEZs in the private sector or joint sector in association with the State Governments or by the State Governments themselves. Hence it is not possible to indicate the number of SEZs which are likely to be opened in 2005-06 and 2006-07 or targeted exports from these zones.

Discussions with farmers organizations on farm policies at WTO

1529. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has held discussion with various farmers organizations as preparation for forthcoming talks on WTO matters related to farm policies;

(b) if so, the details of farmers organizations with which discussions were held;

(c) when were these discussions held by Government; and

(d) the details thereof, giving names and dates and topic of discussions on matters related to WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN):(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Towards evolving India's negotiating strategies and position in the negotiations launched at Doha in 2001, the Government has been holding consultations with stakeholders from time to time, including two consultation workshops organized jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on 19-20 July 2005 and on 28-29 November 2005 at New Delhi as a part of Government's preparations for the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization at Hong Kong, China, on 13-18 December 2005. Open notices were issued to invite information and participation from agri-economists, farmers' associations, research institutions, consumer organisations, and any other interested party. A Statement listing the farmers' organizations which attended these consultation workshops is attached. (See Below)

Under the broad project theme of "Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalisation in India", the July 2005 consultation workshop